

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-37 are pending in this application. In the Office Action mailed on February 16, 2007, claims 1-37 were rejected.

Claims 1-37 remain under prosecution.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Kuban et al., United States Patent No. 4,994,908 (hereinafter “Kuban”) in view of Crawford, Jr., United States Patent No. 5,331,549 (hereinafter “Crawford”).

The Examiner has argued in the previous Office Actions that the claimed invention is rendered obvious by a variety of references, including those cited in the most recent Action, which depict hotel registration and room status tracking systems. Without concession to any of the Examiner’s prior arguments and without retraction of any prior argument made in the instant application, Applicant has elected to take a new approach to the claims presented.

The Kuban reference (as well as most of the other prior art) is entirely directed to the tracking and display of room information. This includes occupancy and status information such as room temperature. The Kuban reference further provides these discrete types of information on separate screens, and not in an integrated format with all information displayed simultaneously on a single display screen. There is no teaching or suggestion of providing any type of integrated display, nor is there a teaching or suggestion of any additional status

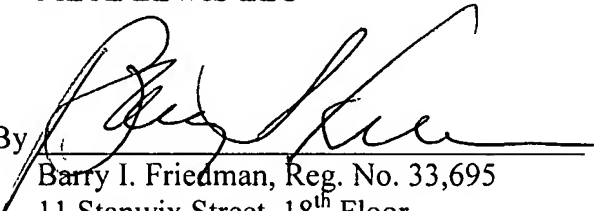
information relating to anything other than the room itself. The Crawford reference discloses the tracking and display of physiological status information. While the system does contemplate providing this information in a graphical format which may reference the room in which the patient is located on a floor, there is no teaching or suggestion of integrating the physiological information with any room status information. The claims, as now presented, require the tracking and simultaneous display of both room and occupant related information. It would not be obvious to combine the Kuban and Crawford references to arrive at this newly claimed invention, except through the use of improper hindsight, as the Crawford reference is directed to physiological information relating to the medical status of the patient. The Kuban reference is related to the administrative or operational condition of the room. It would not be useful or appropriate to combine the medical/physiological information of Crawford with the administrative information of Kuban as no person in a hospital setting would be likely to be interested in both of these types of information. Medical information is of interest to the doctors and treating personnel. The room status information is of interest to housekeeping, admissions and food service, for example. The medical staff has no interest in the bed occupancy or cleanliness state of the room, while admissions is not likely to be checking patient EKG's or blood pressure.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-37 are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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